

**“The Seafarer,”** translated by Burton Raffel, **“The Wayfarer,”** translated by Charles W. Kennedy, **“The Wife’s Lament,”** translated by Ann Stanford

## Vocabulary Warm-up Word Lists

*Study these words from the selections. Then, complete the activities.*

### Word List A

**perched** [PURCHT] *v.* seated on a high or insecure resting place

The falcon’s nest was perched on the edge of the cliff.

**whirled** [WHURLD] *v.* moved rapidly in a circular manner

The couple whirled around the dance floor as they waltzed.

**terns** [TURNZ] *n.* any birds of the seagull family

Hundreds of terns flew over the garbage dump.

**unfurl** [UN fuhrl] *v.* to unfold or unroll

The cabin boy learned to unfurl the sails on the ship.

**scorch** [SKAWRCH] *v.* to shrivel or parch with heat

The sun can scorch fresh paint, causing it to blister.

**billowing** [BIL oh ing] *adj.* rising and rolling in large waves

The smoke was billowing from the chimney.

**smitten** [SMITN] *v.* fascinated with someone or something; in love

The young man was smitten with love when he read the girl’s poetry.

**strive** [STRYV] *v.* try very hard

Always strive to do your best.

### Word List B

**wretched** [RECH id] *adj.* deeply distressed

The wretched child could not stop crying.

**desolation** [DES oh LAY shun] *n.* lonely grief

The survivors of the plane crash were overcome with desolation.

**tarnished** [TAHR nishd] *adj.* having lost its shine, beauty, or reputation

Since the brass lamp was tarnished, the price was reduced.

**decrees** [dee KREEZ] *n.* authoritative orders having the force of law

When our team won, the mayor issued decrees renaming streets in the team’s honor.

**brood** [BROOD] *v.* think about something constantly out of worry or anger

Until he failed the test, the student had no reason to brood about his grades.

**fleeting** [FLEET ing] *adj.* passing quickly

The star was surrounded by bodyguards, so the crowd only got a fleeting glimpse of him.

**mournful** [MAWRN ful] *adj.* suggesting sadness

Whether played at parades or funerals, the bagpipes have a mournful sound.

**naught** [NAWT] *n.* nothing

When the rain washed away the seeds, the farmer’s work was for naught.